

Cervical Cytology Screening (PAP Screening) Guideline

Washington State Clinical Laboratory Advisory Council (CLAC)
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FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY
The individual clinician is in the best position to determine which tests are most appropriate for a particular patient.

Females less than 30 years of age

- Annual screening starting approximately 3 years after the start of sexual intercourse, but not later than 21 years of age.
- Screen annually until 30 years of age once screening is started.

Females 30-65 (70*) years of age

- Screen annually for:
 - Patients treated for CIN2/CIN3
 - Patients exposed to diethylstilbestrol in utero
 - Patients where samples lacked endocervical cells or transformation zone components or WBC/RBCs obscured the slide.
- Screen twice the first year and annually thereafter when the patient is infected with HIV.
- Screen every 2 - 3 years when patient has had 3 negative results and:
 - no history of CIN2 or CIN3;
 - is not immunosuppressed;
 - has no HIV infection; and
 - was not exposed to diethylstilbestrol in utero.
- Screen every 3 years when the patient has negative results for HPV DNA and cervical cytology.

Females greater than 65 (70*) years of age

Routine screening is recommended if the patient is sexually active or if there is previous history of abnormal cytology., otherwise, discontinue screening.

Females with Hysterectomy

- Annual screening is recommended until 3 consecutive screens are negative if:
 - Patient had high-grade intraepithelial lesions before the Hysterectomy.
 - Patient has had a history of CIN2 or CIN3.
 - Patient's negative history is not documented.
- Discontinue when patient has no prior high grade CIN.

Abbreviations:

CIN - Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia
CIN 2 - Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia, moderate dysplasia
CIN 3 - Cervical intraepithelial neoplasia, severe dysplasia
HPV - Human papillomavirus

References:

1. ACOG Practice Bulletin, Clinical Management of Guidelines for Obstetrician-Gynecologists Number 45, August 2003

*The American Cancer Society uses age 70; the US Preventive Services Task Force has set age at 65.